Our initial projects

Sustainability

Gabonese, American and international partners working together to advance collaborative research, education, and public service programs between Gabon, Oregon, the U.S. and Africa, with an emphasis on meeting the world's urgent sustainable development needs.

The Future

A partnership

In Gabon, scientists, professors, professionals and students are teaming up with colleagues in Oregon, the U.S. and around the world to develop cutting-edge projects to address the global development challenges as manifested in Gabon. These projects situate Gabon in global comparative perspective, while prioritizing sustainability, environmental conservation, health care, and education, all clearly stated themes under the Gabon Emergent national development program.

The University of Oregon is proud to host and sponsor the U.S branch of the Gabon-Oregon Center, working in tandem with partner universities in our statewide Oregon African Studies Consortium (Oregon State University, Portland State University, Oregon Health and Science University, Willamette University). The Université Omar Bongo is the proud host of the Gabon branch of the Gabon-Oregon Center, working in tandem with Université des Sciences et Techniques de Masuku (USTM), Université des Sciences de la Santé (USS), Centre National de Recherche Scientifique et Technologique (CENAREST), and École Nationale des Eaux et Forêts (ENEF).

A new vision

The Libreville, Gabon and Eugene, Oregon branches of the Center carry out their joint mission through the mutual sharing of ideas, expertise, research and educational initiatives, as well as the regular flow of exchange students, faculty, researchers, and other partners. In so doing, we draw in contributions from private corporations, foundations, and other parties interested in supporting applied research on sustainable development centered on Gabonese realities with worldwide significance.

Learn more at goc.uoregon.edu/about

Urban Sustainability Program

architecture | urban design | sustainability | planning

Professors, students and staff at Omar Bongo University, in collaboration with UO colleagues from the Urban Design Lab (UDL) and the Sustainable Cities Initiative (SCI), are helping the Gabonese National Public Works Agency with sustainable planning and development of university campuses, housing, transportation, and public space.

English Language Program in Gabon

education | linguistics | cultural exchange

The American English Institute (AEI) is working with Omar Bongo University and the Ministry of National Education to launch an intensive English program for students and professionals interested in learning English.

Ogoué River Basin Sustainable Management Program

conservation | sustainability | biology | geography

GOC researchers and students collaborating with The Nature Conservancy, the Gabonese National Parks Agency, and the Water & Forests Ministry on holistic riparian ecosystem assessment, from water quality to fisheries, sedimentation to biodiversity.

Microbial Biodiversity in Tropical Rainforests

biodiversity | sustainability | climate change

Gabonese and Oregon biologists are working with Gabon’s National Research Center and the Smithsonian Institution in the Gamba region to study microbial biodiversity in Gabon’s tropical forest as an indicator of soil fertility and climate change.

Ethnobotany and Anthelmintic Drug Development

pharmacology | culture | medicine

Gabonese researchers, scientists and students from the Institute for Pharmacopoeia and Traditional Medicine (Iphametra) are working with Oregon biologists to search for anthelmintic compounds in local plants, to develop new medicines to treat nematode borne diseases in Gabon.

MHealth Gabon

innovation | medicine | networks | technology

The Albert Schweitzer Hospital, Gabon’s Health Science University and Oregon Health & Science University are working on a Mobile Phone Health Network for Young Women in Rural Gabon for improved diagnosis and treatment of diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis.
ONGOING AND POTENTIAL RESEARCH AREAS

Patterns of Diversity of Tropical Forest Saprotrophic Fungi (Biology)

Environmental Law and Civic Engagement (Natural Resource Law, Land Tenure, Property Rights, Conflict Resolution)

Deepen Forestry and Environmental Sciences Education in Gabon (Forestry, Political Science, Geography, Environmental Studies, International Studies)

Endangered Species in Tourism Contexts (Anthropology)

Wood Durability, Harvest Reduction and Carbon Accounting (Forestry)

Wood Products Innovation (Wood Products Industry)

Ecotourism Business Models (Geography, Business, Tourism and Outdoor Program)

Alternative Energy and Materials Science (Chemistry)

Marine Biodiversity in Gabon (Marine Biology)

Manioc Toxicity (Global Health, Toxicity)

Epidemiology and Medical Anthropology (Epidemiology, Anthropology)

Neurotoxicity of Hydrocarbons (Global Health, Neurotoxicity)

Land Use, Livelihoods, and National Parks (Anthropology, Geography, International Affairs, Political Science)

Anti-Poaching Incentives and Economic Modeling (Economics)

Cultural Cooperation and Media (Journalism and Communication, English Language Studies)

Archaeology and Cultural Preservation (Archaeology, Anthropology)

Neuroscience Trainings (Neuroscience, Biology)

Distance Education Linkages for Primary and Secondary Schools in Gabon (Education)

Green Chemistry in Gabon (Chemistry)

GABONESE ASSOCIATION | GABON-OREGON CENTER:

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The Minister of Higher Education of the Gabonese Republic

Vice-President:
The Rector of Omar Bongo University

Members:
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